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Applicant:

Toshihiro Shimizu et al.

FEB 1 9 2002

Serial No.:

09/841,262

Filing Date:

April 24, 2001

Technology Center 2600

Title:

DIGITAL RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS

FOR SURVEILANCE

Docket No.:

33551

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir/Madam:

In accordance with Rule 56, applicants are aware of the publications listed in the European Search Report (copy enclosed) and in the enclosed copy of Patent Office Form 1449. A copy of each of the publications is enclosed herewith.

> Respectfully submitted, PEARNE & GORDON LLP

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November 20, 2001

hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below.

Jeffrey J. Sopko

Name of Attorney for Applicant(s

Date

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE ATTY. DOCKET NO. 33551 SERIAL NO. 09/841,262

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION BY APPLICANT
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APPLICANT: Toshihiro Shimizu et al.

(USE SEVERAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)						FILING DATE: April 24, 2001			GROUP ART UNIT:		
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